

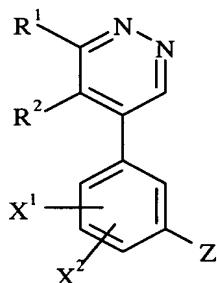
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-13 without prejudice and insert therefore new Claims 14-26. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (canceled)

14. (new) A compound of formula I, or an *N*-oxide thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(I)

wherein:

X¹ represents hydrogen, halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, trifluoromethyl or C₁₋₆ alkoxy;

X² represents hydrogen or halogen;

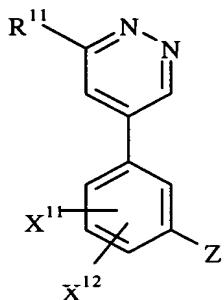
Z represents hydrogen, halogen, cyano, cyanomethyl, trifluoromethyl, nitro, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, formyl, C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl, or an optionally substituted aryl, heteroaryl or heteroaryl(C₁₋₆)alkoxy group;

R¹ represents hydrogen, hydrocarbon, a heterocyclic group, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, nitro, -OR^a, -OSO₂CF₃, -SR^a, -SOR^a, -SO₂R^a, -SO₂NR^aR^b, -NR^aR^b, -NR^aCOR^b, -NR^aCO₂R^b, -COR^a, -CO₂R^a, -CONR^aR^b or -CR^a=NOR^b;

R² represents hydrogen or C₂₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl; and

R^a and R^b independently represent hydrogen, hydrocarbon or a heterocyclic group.

15. (new) The compound of Claim 14 of the formula IIA, or an *N*-oxide thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(IIA)

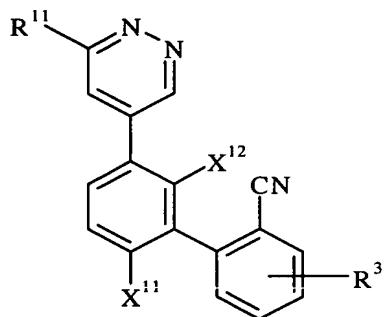
wherein:

X^{11} represents hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, methyl, trifluoromethyl or methoxy;

X^{12} represents hydrogen or fluoro; and

R^{11} represents phenyl, halophenyl, dihalophenyl, trihalophenyl, (C_{1-6} alkyl)(halo)phenyl, (trifluoromethyl)(halo)phenyl, C_{1-6} alkoxyphenyl, (C_{1-6} alkoxy)(halo)phenyl, cyanophenyl, (cyano)(halo)phenyl, C_{3-7} heterocycloalkyl (optionally substituted by oxo), C_{3-7} heterocycloalkenyl, heteroaryl (optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms, and/or by oxo), C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{2-6} alkenyloxy, aryl(C_{1-6})alkoxy, triflyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkylamino, C_{2-6} alkenylamino, C_{3-7} cycloalkylamino, aryl(C_{1-6})alkylamino (optionally substituted by C_{1-6} alkoxy) or C_{2-6} alkoxy carbonyl.

16. (new) The compound of Claim 15 of the formula II B, or an *N*-oxide thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:

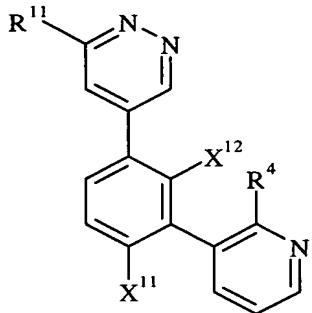


(II B)

wherein:

R³ represents hydrogen or fluoro.

17. (new) The compound of Claim 15 of the formula II C, or an *N*-oxide thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:

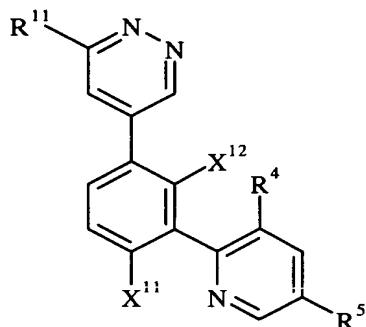


(II C)

wherein:

R⁴ represents hydrogen, fluoro, cyano or methyl.

18. (new) The compound of Claim 15 of the formula IID, or an *N*-oxide thereof or an pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:

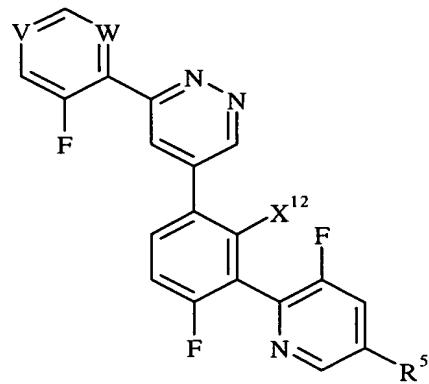


(IID)

wherein:

R⁵ represents hydrogen or fluoro.

19. (new) The compound of Claim 18 of the formula IIE, or an *N*-oxide thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



(IIE)

wherein:

V represents N and W represents CF; or

V represents CF and W represents N; or

V and W both represent CF.

20. (new) A compound which is selected from:

3,5-diphenylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;
3,5-diphenylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester;
3,5-diphenylpyridazine;
5-[2-fluoro-3-(pyridin-3-yl)phenyl]3-phenylpyridazine;
5-(3-isopropoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpyridazine;
3-(6-phenylpyridazin-4-yl)benzaldehyde;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-(6-phenylpyridazin-4-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5-(3-cyanophenyl)-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-(3-bromophenyl)-3-phenylpyridazine;
3-phenyl-5-[3-(pyridin-3-yl)phenyl]pyridazine;
3-phenyl-5-(3-[1,2,4]triazol-4-ylphenyl)pyridazine;
5-[2,4-difluoro-3-(pyridin-4-yl)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-[3-(2-methyl-2H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-(6-phenylpyridazin-4-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(pyridin-4-yl)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
3-phenyl-5-[3-(pyridin-2-ylmethoxy)phenyl]pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-4-yl)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-[2-fluoro-3-(pyridin-4-yl)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(pyridin-3-yl)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
[3-(6-phenylpyridazin-4-yl)phenyl]acetonitrile;
2-fluoro-5-(6-phenylpyridazin-4-yl)benzonitrile;
5-(3-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylpyridazine;
3-(6-phenylpyridazin-4-yl)benzoic acid methyl ester;
3-(6-phenylpyridazin-4-yl)benzaldehyde;
5-(3-fluorophenyl)-3-phenylpyridazine;
3-phenyl-5-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)pyridazine;
5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpyridazine;
5,2'-difluoro-5'-(6-phenylpyridazin-4-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

3,2'-difluoro-5'-(6-phenylpyridazin-4-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5-(4-fluoro-3-methoxyphenyl)-3-phenylpyridazine;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4-fluoro-3'-(6-phenylpyridazin-4-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-[6-(thien-2-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-[6-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5'-[6-(3-chlorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]-6,2'-difluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-[6-(pyridin-3-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5'-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]-6,2'-difluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-[6-(pyridin-4-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(2-fluorophenyl)pyridazine;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(2-fluorophenyl)-pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)pyridazine;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(3-fluorophenyl)-pyridazine;
3-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-pyridazine;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)-pyridazine;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-[6-(2-fluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-[6-(3-fluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
3-[6-(3-fluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]benzonitrile;
3-[6-(2-fluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]benzonitrile;
3-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]benzonitrile;
3-[6-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]benzonitrile;
3-[6-(3,4-difluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]benzonitrile;
3-[6-(2,4-difluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]benzonitrile;
5'-[6-(2-chlorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]-6,2'-difluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpyridazine;
4-fluoro-3'-[6-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-pyridazine;
3-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-pyridazine;
2-{5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]pyridazin-3-yl}-5-fluorobenzonitrile;

3-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(furan-3-yl)pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(furan-2-yl)pyridazine;
3-(2,3-difluorophenyl)-5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(thien-3-yl)pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(thien-2-yl)pyridazine;
3-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-pyridazine;
3-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-pyridazine;
4-{5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]pyridazin-3-yl}benzonitrile;
N-[5-(3-bromophenyl)pyridazin-3-yl]-*N*-methylamine;
N-[5-(3-bromophenyl)pyridazin-3-yl]-*N*-isopropylamine;
N-[5-(3-bromophenyl)pyridazin-3-yl]-*N*-cyclopropylamine;
N-allyl-*N*-[5-(3-bromophenyl)pyridazin-3-yl]amine;
N-[5-(3-bromophenyl)pyridazin-3-yl]-*N*-ethylamine
N-benzyl-*N*-[5-(3-bromophenyl)pyridazin-3-yl]amine;
N-[5-(3-bromophenyl)pyridazin-3-yl]-*N*-(2-methoxybenzyl)amine;
5-(3-bromophenyl)-3-(2,5-dihydropyrrol-1-yl)pyridazine;
5-(3-bromophenyl)-3-ethoxypyridazine;
3-allyloxy-5-(3-bromophenyl)pyridazine;
3-(6-isopropylaminopyridazin-4-yl)benzonitrile;
3-(6-benzylaminopyridazin-4-yl)benzonitrile;
3-[6-(2-methoxybenzylamino)pyridazin-4-yl]benzonitrile;
3-(6-benzyloxypyridazin-4-yl)benzonitrile;
3'-(6-ethylaminopyridazin-4-yl)-4-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4-fluoro-3'-(6-isopropylaminopyridazin-4-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4-fluoro-3'-(6-propylaminopyridazin-4-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
3'-(6-cyclopropylaminopyridazin-4-yl)-4-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
3'-(6-allylaminopyridazin-4-yl)-4-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
3'-(6-benzylaminopyridazin-4-yl)-4-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4-fluoro-3'-(6-methylaminopyridazin-4-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4-fluoro-3'-(6-methoxypyridazin-4-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
3'-(6-ethoxypyridazin-4-yl)-4-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

3'-(6-benzyloxypyridin-4-yl)-4-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5-(4-fluoro-3-hydroxyphenyl)-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(2-methyl-2H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-4-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(pyridin-4-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(pyridin-3-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-3-phenylpyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(pyridin-4-yl)pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(pyrazin-2-yl)pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(thiazol-2-yl)pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(pyridin-2-yl)pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(3-fluoropyridin-4-yl)pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(1H-[1,2,3]triazol-4-yl)pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]pyridazine-3-carboxylic acid ethyl ester;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(2-fluorophenyl)-pyridazine-1-oxide;
3-(2,6-difluorophenyl)-5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-pyridazine;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

21. (new) A compound which is selected from:

3-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)-5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]pyridazine;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(2-fluoro-4-trifluoromethylphenyl)pyridazine;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(2-fluoro-4-methylphenyl)-pyridazine;
3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]pyridazine;
trifluoromethanesulfonic acid 5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]pyridazin-3-yl ester;
3-ethylsulfanyl-5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]pyridazine;
3-*tert*-butylsulfanyl-5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]pyridazine;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(3-fluoropyridin-4-yl)-pyridazine;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)-pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)-pyridazine;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(3-fluoropyridin-4-yl)-pyridazine 1-oxide;
5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(3-fluoro-1-oxypyridin-4-yl)-pyridazine;
5-[2,4-difluoro-3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-4-yl)pyridazine;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(2-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)pyridazine;

5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]-3-(2-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)-pyridazine;
3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-4-yl)-5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]pyridazine;
3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-5-[4-fluoro-3-(3-fluoropyridin-2-yl)phenyl]pyridazine;
3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-4-yl)-5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]pyridazine;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

22. (new) The compound of Claim 14 which is selected from:

3-(3,5-difluoro-1-oxypyridin-4-yl)-5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluoro-phenyl]pyridazine;
5'-[6-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]-2'-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5'-[6-(3,5-difluoropyridin-4-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]-2'-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-[6-(3,5-difluoropyridin-4-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-[6-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
2-{5-[6-(3,5-difluoropyridin-4-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]-2-fluorophenyl}-nicotinonitrile;
2-{5-[6-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]-2-fluorophenyl}-nicotinonitrile;
2'-fluoro-5'-[6-(2-oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
2'-fluoro-5'-[6-(2-oxo-2*H*-pyridin-1-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
6,2'-difluoro-5'-[6-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)pyridazin-4-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-5-(4-fluoro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl)pyridazine;
3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-5-(6-fluoro-2'-trifluoromethylbiphenyl-3-yl)-pyridazine;
5-(6,2'-difluorobiphenyl-3-yl)-3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)pyridazine;
3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-5-(6,2',4'-trifluorobiphenyl-3-yl)pyridazine;
5-[3-(3,5-difluoropyridin-2-yl)-4-fluorophenyl]-3-(2,4,6-trifluorophenyl)-pyridazine;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

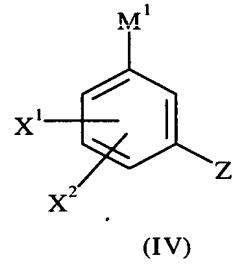
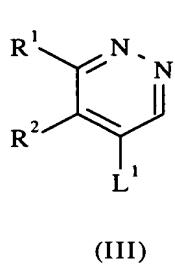
23. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 14, or an *N*-oxide thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

24. (new) A method for the treatment of a neurological disorder which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of Claim 14, or an *N*-oxide thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25. (new) A method for the prevention of a neurological disorder which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of Claim 14, or an *N*-oxide thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

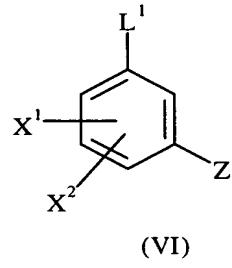
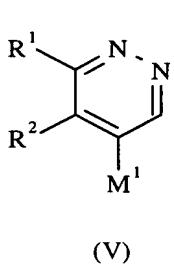
26. (new) A process for the preparation of a compound of Claim 14, which comprises:

(A) reacting a compound of formula III with a compound of formula IV:



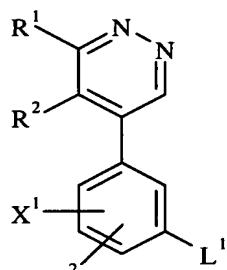
wherein X¹, X², Z, R¹ and R² are as defined in Claim 14, L¹ represents a suitable leaving group, and M¹ represents a boronic acid moiety -B(OH)₂ or a cyclic ester thereof formed with an organic diol, or M¹ represents -Sn(Alk)₃ in which Alk represents C₁-₆ alkyl, or M¹ represents -ZnHal in which Hal represents halogen; in the presence of a transition metal catalyst; or

(B) reacting a compound of formula V with a compound of formula VI:

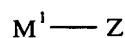


wherein X¹, X², Z, R¹ and R² are as defined in Claim 14, and L¹ and M¹ are as defined above; in the presence of a transition metal catalyst; or

(C) reacting a compound of formula VII with a compound of formula VIII:



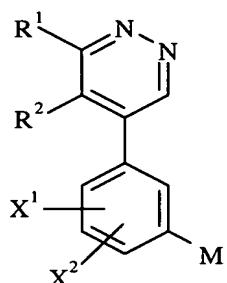
(VII)



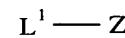
(VIII)

wherein X^1 , X^2 , Z , R^1 and R^2 are as defined in Claim 14, and L^1 and M^1 are as defined above; in the presence of a transition metal catalyst; or

(D) reacting a compound of formula IX with a compound of formula X:



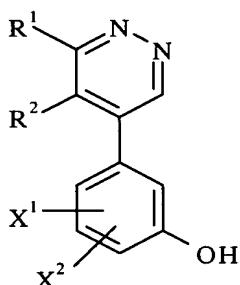
(IX)



(X)

wherein X^1 , X^2 , Z , R^1 and R^2 are as defined in Claim 14, and L^1 and M^1 are as defined above; in the presence of a transition metal catalyst; or

(E) reacting a compound of formula XI with a compound of formula XII:



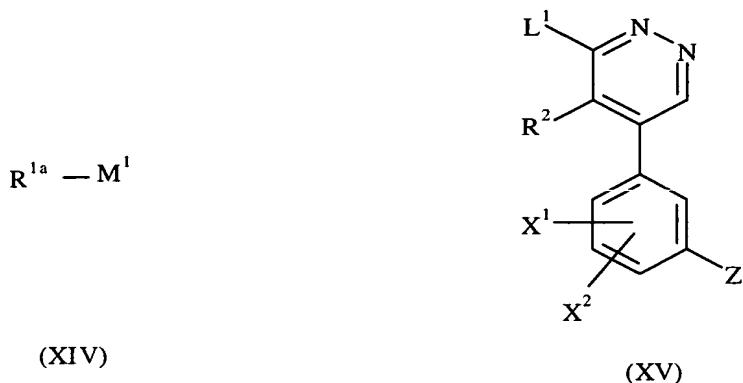
(XI)



(XII)

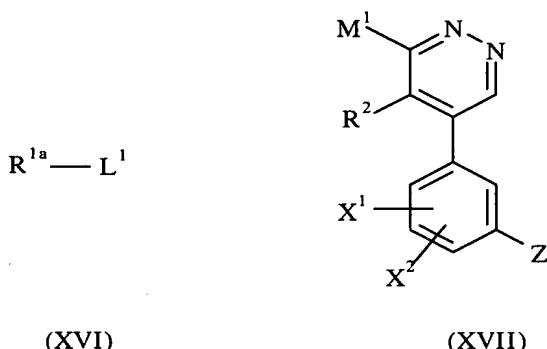
wherein X^1 , X^2 , R^1 and R^2 are as defined in Claim 14, and Z^1 represents C_{1-6} alkyl or optionally substituted heteroaryl(C_{1-6})alkyl; in the presence of triphenylphosphine and a dialkyl azodicarboxylate; or

(F) reacting a compound of formula XIV with a compound of formula XV:



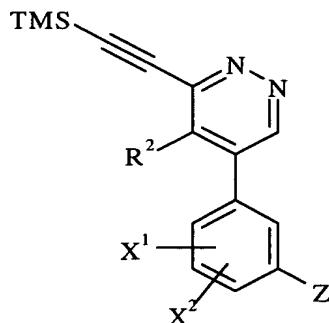
wherein X^1 , X^2 , Z and R^2 are as defined in Claim 14, L^1 and M^1 are as defined above, and R^{1a} represents an aryl or heteroaryl moiety; in the presence of a transition metal catalyst; or

(G) reacting a compound of formula XVI with a compound of formula XVII:



wherein X^1 , X^2 , Z and R^2 are as defined in Claim 14, and R^{1a} , L^1 and M^1 are as defined above; in the presence of a transition metal catalyst; or

(H) reacting a compound of formula XVIII:



(XVIII)

wherein X^1 , X^2 , Z and R^2 are as defined in Claim 14, and TMS is an abbreviation for trimethylsilyl; with sodium azide; or

(J) reacting a compound of formula XV as defined above with a compound of formula $R^a\text{-OH}$, wherein R^a is as defined in Claim 14; or

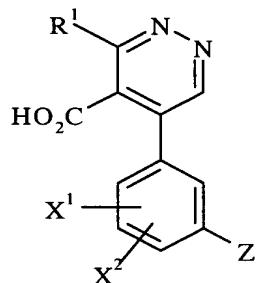
(K) reacting a compound of formula XV as defined above with a salt of formula $R^a\text{S}^-\text{Na}^+$, wherein R^a is as defined in Claim 14; or

(L) reacting a compound of formula XV as defined above with a compound of formula $\text{H-NR}^a\text{R}^b$, wherein R^a and R^b are as defined in Claim 14; or

(M) reacting a compound of formula XV as defined above with carbon dioxide and a compound of formula $R^a\text{-OH}$, wherein R^a is as defined in Claim 14; in the presence of a transition metal catalyst; or

(N) reacting a compound of formula VII above wherein L^1 represents a halogen atom with zinc cyanide; in the presence of a transition metal catalyst; or

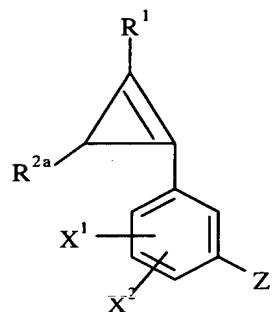
(P) reacting a compound of formula XXII:



(XXII)

wherein X^1 , X^2 , Z and R^1 are as defined in Claim 14; with diazomethane; or

(Q) reacting a compound of formula XXIII:



(XXIII)

wherein X^1 , X^2 , Z and R^1 are as defined in Claim 14, and R^{2a} represents C_{2-6} alkoxy carbonyl; with diazomethane.